



**SANTA MONICA BAY
RESTORATION COMMISSION**
MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE OF THE NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

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January 7, 2022

Agenda Item: 2.e.ii

To: Executive Committee, Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission

From: Marissa Caringella, Chief Administrative Director
Caitlin Gray, Environmental Scientist

Re: **Presentation on the Draft Santa Monica Bay National Estuary
Program Fiscal Year 2023 Work Plan**

Action Requested of the Executive Committee

Schedule the presentation on the draft Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program (SMBNEP) Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) Work Plan for the February 17, 2022 Governing Board meeting.

Background

Each year the Commission collaborates with The Bay Foundation to develop the SMBNEP Annual Work Plan which identifies the planned tasks and activities to further implementation of the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) for the federal fiscal year. Upon the Governing Board's approval of the Annual Work Plan, The Bay Foundation submits the Annual Work Plan to the US EPA as part of the application for the annual federal Clean Water Act Section 320 NEP grant for implementation of the specified activities. The Annual Work Plans also aid the US EPA in tracking grant expenditures and progress toward achieving the NEP's objectives and compiling information on the environmental outcomes of CCMP implementation.

The FY23 Work Plan outlines next steps, partners, objectives, deliverables, and outcomes for work to be performed between October 1, 2022 and September 30, 2023 and must be submitted to US EPA by June 1, 2022 to meet deadlines for US EPA's review and approval. The FY23 Work Plan is consistent with NEP funding guidance and the actions, next steps, lead entities, and long-term environmental results of the [CCMP Action Plan](#) adopted in October 2018. The FY23 Work Plan builds on the current FY22 Work Plan and many of the priorities and tasks remain similar because they are continuations of multi-year tasks.



The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission's mission is to restore and enhance Santa Monica Bay through actions and partnerships that improve water quality, conserve and rehabilitate natural resources, mitigate the impacts of climate change and sea level rise, and protect Santa Monica Bay's benefits and values.

At the February 17, 2022 Governing Board meeting, Commission staff and The Bay Foundation staff will present on the preliminary draft of planned activities in the FY23 Work Plan. There will be many opportunities for Commission members and stakeholders, including the general public, to provide input on the preliminary draft. Members and stakeholders may provide comments at the February 17, 2022 Governing Board meeting. All are also encouraged to provide written comments during the written public comment period which opens February 17, 2022 and closes March 4, 2022. Stakeholders, interested parties, and members of the public are also encouraged to provide input on the preliminary draft at the virtual Santa Monica Bay Stakeholders Public Workshop scheduled for February 24, 2022.

Commission staff and The Bay Foundation staff will finalize the draft FY23 Work Plan after reviewing and considering all input received and completing the introduction, overview, budget, completed projects, and staffing sections. Commission staff will retain input that was not incorporated into the final draft to consider for the next CCMP update. The Governing Board is anticipated to consider approval of the final draft FY23 Work Plan at its April 21, 2022 meeting.